



Thursday  
December  
30, 2010

# Weekly Views

The Branchville Correctional Facility's PLUS program made over 40 quilts and distributed them among local nursing homes. All material for the quilts was donated by local businesses and volunteers. The PLUS program hopes to expand the program in the coming months to include other nursing homes and shelters. (see photo right)

Staff at the Pendleton Correctional Facility collected food items, winter clothing, and toys. The items were donated to the East Central Indiana Second Harvest Food Bank to assist those in need during this Holiday Season.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility K9 Team presented Correctional Officer Brandon Mackey with the "Outstanding Teamwork 2010" award in recognition of his dedication to accomplishing the mission and goals of the facility's K9 Unit. Congratulations Officer Mackey!

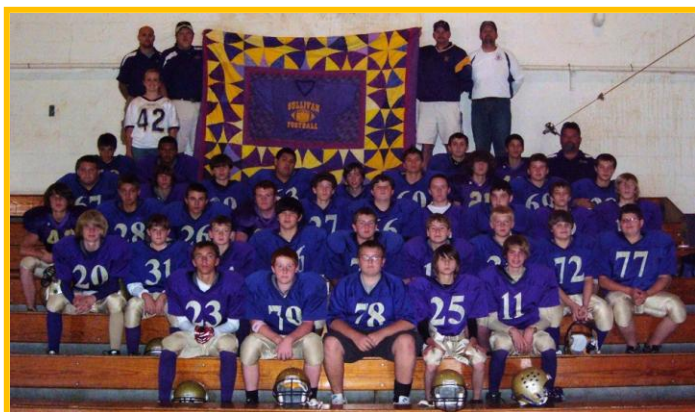


The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) delivered 12 large boxes of food collected by staff to the South Madison Food Pantry that serves those in need in south Madison County. The food will be given to those in need from the fellowship hall of the South Madison Community Church. 30 CIF employees also participated in a 'Tree of Warmth' for children in need of a little extra Christmas cheer. The Pendleton School System provided the facility with gift suggestions to hang on a Christmas tree at the facility. Staff then chose an item from the tree to purchase.

Seven graduates of the Madison Correctional Facility Cosmetology School passed their state licensing boards and are now ready for employment upon release or transfer to a community re-entry facility.

The Indiana State Prison donated \$600 in gift cards to the Sand Castle Shelter for homeless children and families. The intent was to use the cards to purchase Christmas presents for the homeless children. The shelter will monitor the use of each card, and the remaining funds will be used for food and clothing.

The Sullivan Junior High football team scored almost \$300 after an end run by Wabash Valley PLUS participants. The PLUS squad donated a quilt which team parents raffled, to help pay for needed uniforms and equipment. Jim Pirtle of Sullivan County won the quilt and scored a holiday touchdown, gifting the quilt to his grandson—who will be playing football next year on the Sullivan Junior High team! (see photo below)



Offenders from the Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit (ISO) refurbished 25 bicycles. ISO staff delivered the bicycles in time for Christmas to the Village in Portage, IN. The children were very happy to have received the bikes.

Students and staff from Camp Summit went caroling at several nursing homes in Michigan City and LaPorte, IN. The Camp Summit Carolers visited Golden Living and Fountain View Terrace in LaPorte. The students also sung for the residents at The Arbors, Sterling House, Rittenhouse Assisted Living, and Clare

Bridge in Michigan City, filling the nursing homes with joyous Christmas carols.

Students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF) celebrated the holidays with parties and a unit decorating contest. The students also received gifts from Madison Correctional Facility's GRIP Unit, the MJCF Education Department, King's Daughter's Hospital and Health Services, AIM Mentors, eleven different religious organizations, and the Madison community.

The Westville Correctional Facility had the opportunity to support a new restaurant in the community. Harold's Chicken in Gary, IN sold chicken dinners to the offenders. The sales took in over \$11,000, and the new establishment was able to secure a good profit. Westville received \$1,100 from the sales. Half will go to the facility's PLUS program and the other half will be donated to a local charity.

Camp Summit collected \$398 to purchase food for a local food bank and gifts for needy families for Christmas. \$220 was raised through staff lunches and \$178 was raised through student donations.

Madison Correctional Facility staff and offenders raised over \$1200 to purchase clothing and toys for nine local children for Christmas.